

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-02 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 SS-20

USIA-15 PRS-01 /067 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:MW WILEY

NEA:ESWALKER

S/S:WLUERS

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R Z ZZS 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TS, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REPLY TO CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE
FROM BOURGUIBA

1. EMBASSY SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO BOURGUIBA:
QUOTE HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT HABIB BOURGUIBA, TUNIS,
DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE
ON MY ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES. PLEASE BE ASSURED OF MY FULL COMMITMENT TO THE
QUEST FOR WORLD PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND
TO CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP AND CLOSE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. END QUOTE.

2. FYI: THE FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF CABLE FROM
PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA TO PRESIDENT FORD RECEIVED BY WHITE
HOUSE ON AUGUST 9: QUOTE ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR
ASSUMPTION OF THE HIGH OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA I TAKE GREAT PLEASURE IN EXPRESSING TO
YOU MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON BEHALF OF MYSELF
AND THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE. TUNISIAN-AMERICAN
RELATIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MARKED BY FRIENDSHIP, MUTUAL
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TRUST, AND A SPIRIT OF CLOSE COOPERATION. UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP I AM CONVINCED THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP ALONG THOSE LINES.

IT IS MY FIRM HOPE THAT UNDER YOUR GUIDANCE THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO SAFEGUARD PEACE, CONSOLIDATE DETENTE, AND ELIMINATE AREAS OF TENSION IN THE WORLD WILL BE CARRIED FORWARD IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WHERE AN INITIATIVE AIMED AT A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT HAS BEEN SET IN MOTION, BASED ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THAT REGION'S PEOPLES, PARTICULARLY THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO THEIR COUNTRY.

THE EFFORTS OF ALL INVOLVED, AND FIRST AND FOREMOST OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, MUST BE PURSUED WITHOUT INTERRUPTION FOR THE RETURN OF PEACE TO THIS SORELY TRIED REGION.

MAY GOD ASSIST YOU IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF YOUR HIGH MISSION AND CROWN YOUR EFFORTS WITH SUCCESS. END QUOTE
NEITHER THE DEPARTMENT NOR THE WHITE HOUSE PLANS TO RELEASE THE TEXT OF THE REPLY, BUT THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO ITS RELEASE BY GOT. KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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